

## **2017 Regular Season Bulletin 5**

### **National Anthem**

Question: “What do we as officials do if high school players kneel during the National Anthem?”

Answer: Nothing. Not within the official’s jurisdiction.

### **Underhanded Forward Pass**

It is legal to throw an underhanded forward pass, often called a shovel pass. The manner in which the ball is thrown has no bearing on whether the pass is forward or backward, only the initial direction of the pass. Rules 2-31-2 and 2-31-5

### **Extra Point**

Play: PAT, and Team K lines up in a scrimmage kick formation. Snap goes directly to the kicker, who runs into the end zone for an apparent two points.

Ruling: Legal play; two points for Team K. Just because Team K lines up in a scrimmage kick formation, they are not obligated to kick the ball. Rule 8-3-3.

### **Field Goal**

Play: Team A’s ball, 4<sup>th</sup> and Goal at the B 5-yard line. Score is A-17; B-20. 2 seconds remaining in the game with the QB under center. QB takes the snap from the left hash, and rolls right. Seeing that he will be stopped in the backfield, the QB executes a drop kick which goes through the uprights.

Ruling: Field Goal, score 3 points for Team A. There is no requirement to line up in a scrimmage kick formation for a field goal attempt. Rules 8-4-1a and c.

### **Penalty Enforcement**

Question: Scoring play for Team A. Double Dead Ball fouls on Team B prior to the ready for play on the try. Can Team A take one of the fouls on the try – to the 1 ½ and then hold over the other penalty to the free kick – as such kicking off from Team B’s 45?

Answer: Look at the wording of Rule 8-2-4. “...the offended team may accept the result of the play and choose enforcement of the PENALTY: ....” The word “PENALTY” is singular and Rule 8-2-4 applies separately to each (dead ball) foul without regard to another (dead ball) foul. Each foul stands alone, by itself, for enforcement purposes. Another rule reference is Rule 10-2-5a which says, “Penalties for dead-ball fouls.....are administered separately and in the order of occurrence.”

Therefore, Team A can have one penalty enforced on the try and the other penalty enforced on the subsequent kickoff.

## **Cancer Awareness Month**

Solid-colored pink towels, gloves, socks, shoe laces and sweatbands (worn legally) are legal commemorative items that may be worn in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness. Officials may also use pink whistles, pink beanbags and pink penalty flags during October.

## **Mid-Season Kudos**

We have reached the middle of the 2017 regular season. Brad and I want to compliment all of you on the job you are doing on the field. We have not received a lot of comments or criticisms. Not much chatter regarding pop-up kicks and the new timing rule! Some issues and concerns that we have heard about have been addressed in these weekly bulletins. Keep up the good work; games take on new significance as the season progresses. Let's work to be consistent with our rules knowledge and interpretations and our mechanics.

## **Training Video**

Regarding last week's Training Video...Rule 8-3-2b says a try ends when "it is apparent that a drop kick or place kick will not score." In last week's play, the place kick was blocked and therefore the kick try ended. Any second kicking would be a kicking of a dead ball. No Rule 9-7-1 foul for kicking a loose ball, which had already become dead by rule.

If this occurred during a field goal attempt, then a Rule 9-7-1 foul for kicking a loose ball, as the ball remains live following the blocked field goal attempt.

This week's Training Video features a play where a runner pitches the ball backward to the QB who throws a touchdown pass. Several things to look for and discuss. Was the runner's forward progress stopped? Was the QB's pass legal? What about any ineligible downfield? Crew communication; what is necessary with this play?

My opinion in next week's Bulletin. The idea is to generate discussion because some day, in some game, you may have to make the call!

Here's the link. Remember you need to be signed in to Arbiter to view the video

<http://osafootball.arbitersports.com/Front/105991/Video/player/14155/17251>